UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

PATRICIA BURK,) CIVIL COMPLAINT
Plaintiff,) CIVIL COMPLAINT
v.)
PRIME RECOVERY LLC,)
Defendant.)) JURY DEMAND
)

COMPLAINT

Now comes PATRICIA BURK ("Plaintiff"), complaining as to PRIME RECOVERY LLC, ("Defendant") as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA") under 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. Subject matter jurisdiction is conferred upon this Court by 15 U.S.C. § 1692, as well as 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337, as the action arises under the laws of the United States.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in the State of Michigan.
- 5. Defendant is a third-party debt collector located in the Western District of New York.

BACKGROUND

- 6. Plaintiff incurred a debt for personal (not business) purposes.
- 7. Upon information and belief, Defendant received Plaintiff's account and began to collect upon it.
- 8. Within the last few months, Defendant began making calls to Plaintiff in connection with collecting the debt from 888-801-1153.
- 9. Defendant, in the course of collecting upon the debt, engaged in conduct violative of federal law as set forth in the following paragraphs.
- 10. Defendant left at least two voicemails and made at least four phone calls to Plaintiff with, on information and belief, the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass Plaintiff.
- 11. Defendant made these calls and voicemails on or around the following dates: September 12, 2019; September 13, 2019; September 17, 2019.
- 12. On information and belief, the purpose of Defendant's unlawful actions, as set forth above, were to harass Plaintiff into paying the purported debt.
- 13. Defendant referenced a case number in a voicemail to Plaintiff, misrepresenting to her that legal action had begun when it had not.
- 14. Further, in another voicemail Defendant implied that Plaintiff would be sued if she did not cooperate in the matter.
- 15. On reference and belief, Defendant does not customarily sue consumers in Michigan.

- 16. On information and belief, Defendant did not intend to sue Plaintiff if she refused to pay.
- 17. On each occasion, Defendant failed to disclose that they are a debt collector or that they were attempting to collect a debt.
- 18. Plaintiff has suffered, among other things, stress, anxiety, confusion, and a violation of Plaintiff's legal rights as a result of these actions.

COUNT I — VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 19. Plaintiff realleges the paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 20. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3) of the FDCPA.
- 21. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by § 1692a(6) of the FDCPA because the principal purpose of its business is the collection of debts, and because it uses the instrumentalities of interstate commerce to do so.
- 22. In the alternative, Defendant is a "debt collector" under § 1692(a)(6) because it regularly collects or attempt to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due or asserted to be owed or due another.
- 23. Defendant's actions, as stated above, violate the following provisions of the FDCPA: § 1692d and § 1692e.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

- **a.** Declaring that the practices complained of herein are unlawful and violate the aforementioned bodies of law;
- **b.** Awarding Plaintiff statutory damages in connection with the counts set forth above;

- c. Awarding Plaintiff actual damages;
- **d.** Awarding Plaintiff reasonable attorney fees;
- e. Awarding Plaintiff the costs of this action; and
- **f.** Awarding any other relief as this Honorable Court deems just and appropriate.

A TRIAL BY JURY IS DEMANDED.

Dated: November 25, 2019

By: s/ Jonathan Hilton

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